

What to Expect After Getting a COVID-19 Vaccine

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Common side effects

Some people have side effects after getting the vaccine. Side effects usually last one or two days and usually do not prevent you from daily activities. You may have:

- Pain where you received the vaccine
- Muscle or joint aches
- Tiredness
- Headache
- Fever/chills
- Swelling under your arm pits

Ask the person who gave you the vaccine or your doctor about taking over-the-counter medicines for any pain or fever. If your arm hurts where you got the shot, place a clean, cool, wet washcloth over the area. Using your arm or exercising it also helps. Drink plenty of fluids if you have a fever.

If you have side effects that do not go away after a few days, call your doctor. Go to a hospital or call 911 if you think you might be having a severe allergic reaction.

Use the v-safe information sheet you got when you were vaccinated to install CDC's v-safe on your smartphone. Find more information at [V-safe After Vaccination Health Checker \(www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html\)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/vsafe.html).

Keep yourself and others safe

Once you are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 (two doses in a two-dose series or one dose in a one-dose series), it takes two weeks for your body to build up protection.

We do not know yet how long protection from COVID-19 vaccines lasts. We also do not know yet if people who got the vaccine and get infected with COVID-19 can still spread the virus to others. Until we know more, continue to:

- Wear a mask.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from anyone that does not live with you.
- Wash your hands often.
- Stay home if you are sick.

Cost: The vaccine is free to everyone, regardless of your immigration or insurance status. Some vaccination clinics may ask for medical insurance information so they can get reimbursed from the insurance company. You should not receive a bill. If you do not have insurance, you can still get vaccinated.

